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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/692,791	10/27/2003	Ian Robert Edmonds	1232.001	1064
7590 04/26/2005				
Liniak, Berenato & White Ste. 240 6550 Rock Spring Drive Bethesda, MD 20817				
			EXAMINER LEE, GUYOUNG	
			ART UNIT 2875	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 04/26/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No. 10/692,791	Applicant(s)  EDMONDS, IAN ROBERT	
	Examiner Guiyoung Lee	Art Unit 2875	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-943)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>0204</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Objections*

1. Claims 1 recites the limitation "the normal" in line 5 and line 13. Claim 2 recites the limitation "the normal" in line 5 and line 10. Claim 3 recites the limitation "the normal" in line 5 and line 13. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Further, it is unclear to the Examiner which direction "the normal" indicates in the sheet. For examining purpose, it is assumed that "the normal" indicates a light incident surface of the sheet.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Milner (US5,880,886).

Re claims 1-2: Milner discloses a light channeling panel produced by cutting a parallel array of cuts through a first sheet of transparent plastic and thin internal columns perpendicular to the cuts left uncut in the sheet to support the cut regions in the first sheet (41 in Fig. 5), and a second sheet of transparent plastic and thin internal columns perpendicular to the cuts left uncut in the sheet to support the cut regions in the second sheet (42 in Fig. 5), and transposing the first sheet to the second sheet such that the edges of the cuts in the transposed second sheet are collinear with the edges of the cuts in the first sheet (Fig. 6) so as to form a light channeling panel.

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The method of cutting the first and second sheet of transparent plastic with a cutting machine is not germane to the issue of patentability of the light channeling panel itself.

Therefore, this limitation has not been given patentable weight.

4. Claims 1-2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cowling (US 5,295,051) cited by Applicant.

Re claims 1-2: Cowling discloses a light channeling panel produced by cutting a parallel array of cuts through a first sheet of transparent plastic and thin internal columns perpendicular to the cuts left uncut in the sheet to support the cut regions in the first sheet (Fig. 9), and a second sheet of transparent plastic and thin internal columns perpendicular to the cuts left uncut in the sheet to support the cut regions in the second sheet (Fig. 10), and transposing the first sheet to the second sheet such that the edges of the cuts in the transposed second sheet are collinear with the edges of the cuts in the first sheet (Fig. 11) so as to form a light channeling panel.

#### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 3-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Milner (US 5,295,051) in view of Senzo Imai (US 3,393,034).

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Re claim 3: The teachings of Milner with regard to claims 1-2 have been discussed above.

Milner does not disclose that the cuts are made at a first side and a second side of a sheet of transparent plastic. However, Senzo teaches that the intermediate plate (12" in Fig. 10) has two sides (a first side and a second side), and the cuts (19 and 19') are made at the first side (18) and the second side (18'). Further, Senzo's intermediate plate has a thin internal columns (the middle area of the sheet 12" in Fig. 10) perpendicular to the laser cuts left uncut to support the cut regions of the sheet. Further, Senzo teaches that a object of his invention is to provide a light transmitting panel or sheet which, with a light source positioned on one side thereof, is capable of directing the light transmitted threrethrough into a predetermined range of useful directions for illuminating a desired area, eliminating all the glare portion of the light (col. 2, lines 1-15). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Milner's two sheets into a one sheet having cuts at both side of the sheet because it is just a different cutting method of making a light transmitting sheet in order to direct light into a desired area.

Re claims 4-5: The method of cutting the first and second sheet of transparent plastic with a cutting machine is not germane to the issue of patentability of the light channeling panel itself. Therefore, this limitation has not been given patentable weight.

Re claim 6: Senzo teaches that the light channeling panel can be fixed in a window opening to buildings or houses (col. 1, line 30-32).


*Conclusion*

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Guiyoung Lee whose telephone number is 571-272-2374. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra O'Shea can be reached on 571-272-2378. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

LGY



Sandra O'Shea  
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